

BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD
PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL
AUGUST 16, 2011 AGENDA
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
101 Washington Avenue
7:30 PM Executive Closed Session/8:00 pm Public Session

1. Opening of the Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Birkner at 7:30 pm. Mayor Birkner then read the Open Public Meetings Law Statement: "This meeting which conforms with the Open Public Meetings law, Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975, is a regular Borough Council meeting. Notices have been filed with our local official newspapers and posted on the municipal bulletin board."

2. Roll Call:

Mayor Birkner – Present
Councilmember Grefrath – Excused Absence
Councilmember Phayre - Present
Councilmember Quinn - Present
Councilmember Sciara - Present
Councilmember Waneck - Present
Council President Miller - Present
Borough Administrator Hoffmann – Present
Borough Attorney Huntington - Present
Acting Clerk Holmes - Present

Committee Assignments:

Finance, Administration & Capital Projects
Public Properties
Health & Recreation
Fire & Ambulance
Land Use
Police & OEM

3. Resolution #11-186: Executive Closed Session

Motion: Council President Miller Second: Councilmember Quinn

Roll Call: Councilmember Grefrath – Absent	Councilmember Phayre - Yes
Councilmember Quinn – Yes	Councilmember Sciara - Yes
Councilmember Waneck – Yes	Council President Miller – Yes

4. Reopen the Meeting:

Motion to reopen the meeting: Council President Miller Second: Councilmember Sciara

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.

The time was 8:05 pm.

5. Roll Call II:

Mayor Birkner – Present
Councilmember Grefrath – Excused Absence
Councilmember Phayre - Present
Councilmember Quinn – Present
Councilmember Sciara - Present
Councilmember Waneck - Present
Council President Miller – Present
Borough Administrator Hoffmann – Present
Borough Attorney Huntington - Present
Borough Engineer Boswell - Present
Acting Clerk Holmes – Present

6. Flag Salute

Council President Miller gave the invocation. Mayor Birkner led those present in the salute to the flag.

7. Proclamation Honoring Years of Service: Det. Sgt. Fortunat, 30 years., PO Emmett & PO Quaglino, 25 years, PO Cottone, 15 years

Mayor Birkner and Councilmember Sciara presented proclamations honoring years of service to several Police Officers.

8. Reports of Committees and Officials:

A) Mayor's Report

1) Bike Path Connection

Mayor Birkner reported the work on the bicycle path connecting Pascack County Park and Westvale Park, as well as improvements to the County Park, has begun. The project will join the two parks which will provide 100 acres of active and passive recreation opportunities. The estimated completion date is set for the fall and will give the Borough one of the largest park systems in the County.

2) HUMC

Mayor Birkner did not have any new information with regard to the HUMC Certificate of Need application.

HUMC recently hosted a BBQ honoring all the emergency personnel of the Pascack Valley for all their dedication and hard work. The event was very well attended.

3) Pascack Valley Waterway Task Force Report

Mayor Birkner informed that the Pascack Valley Waterway Task Force was assembled in 2009 to review the issue of historical flooding in and around the Pascack Valley. The Task Force has held meetings and assembled professionals and governmental officials to assist in the provision of relief to residents in flood prone areas. The most recent meeting included representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers, NJDEP Bureau of Dam Safety, United Water, legislators, environmental groups, County officials and departments, and local officials. The purpose of the meeting was to review the data from the three recent flood events and the stream walk. The Task Force intends to host a public forum with a panel of experts that have knowledge on the flooding issues. The Army Corps of Engineers, who will participate in the panel, has provided recommendations on how to request the Army Corps perform a Reconnaissance Study of the Hackensack River Basin in the Pascack Valley. Mayor Birkner will present a resolution on the study at the next work session.

Mayor Birkner reported that United Water gave a presentation on the flooding at the Task

Force Meeting that included historical information from past flooding events. They reviewed their plans for reinforcing the Woodcliff Lake Dam, which will commence in March 2012 and take 18-20 months to complete. Task Force questions focused on the operational procedures of the dam with the goal of optimizing the flood controlling potential of the dam.

The NJDEP Bureau of Dam Safety and Bureau of Stream Permitting and Water Management have also committed to attend the public forum.

Mayor Birkner advised that as soon as the date for the public forum is confirmed it will be announced.

B) Engineer's Report

1) Bi-weekly Report

Dr. Boswell reviewed the bi-weekly report, a copy of which is attached.

2) Pascack Brook Sewer Pipe Remediation

Dr. Boswell reported that the odor solution has been installed and seems to be working fine.

3) Review Traffic Circulation Plans-Park & Madison Ave

Dr. Boswell reviewed the temporary plan for closing off the intersections at Madison and making Park a two-way street. He voiced concerns that the results are subjective. The temporary project would be expensive to implement. Captain Durante commented that without the surrounding improvements in place he believes the results of the test would be negative. Council President Miller and Mayor Birkner agreed that the temporary plan would not be beneficial. Councilmember Waneck would like to see the results of the Broadway intersection changes before making any other changes. Dr. Boswell pointed out that by waiting to see the results of the County's changes, the projects would not be bid together. The Governing Body was comfortable with that. Dr. Boswell expounded on the need for the Broadway intersection improvements.

Mayor Birkner advised the members of the public who had their hands raised that a public forum would be held later in the meeting where their comments could be heard.

C) Council Liaison & Committee Reports

1) Police and OEM:

No report.

2) Fire and Ambulance:

a) Ambulance Corps Update

Councilmember Sciara reported on the annual Ambulance Corps barbeque.

3) Public Properties:

a) Road Repaving

Councilmember Phayre reported that the road repaving program has been delayed by the weather. The goal is to have the projected completed by the start of school.

4) Land Use:

a) Historic Commission Update

Councilmember Waneck reported on that Paragon has asked the Historic Commission to review their plans to the building next door to the new bank, which will be used for offices. She will make the plans available to the Councilmembers should they wish to review it.

Councilmember Sciara asked if there would be any limitations on the offices in the historic building. Councilmember Waneck explained that while they originally suggested the Borough use some of the space, the ADA requirements were extensive and cost prohibitive. Ultimately it will be used for their own office purposes.

b) Planning Board Update

The Master Plan review is on track. Sustainability issues, such as impervious surfaces, were discussed at the last meeting. Councilmember Waneck will distribute a memo by the Borough Planner on sustainability issues. She relayed that the Planning Board was pleased that the Governing Body followed the Master Plan regarding the recent request to vacate land that was environmentally sensitive.

5) Health and Recreation:

a) Recreation Update

The summer camp was well received, with a 15% enrollment increase from last year. The before- and after-care were also well-received. She thanked all the staff and participants.

D) Attorney's Report

No report.

E) Administrator's / Clerk's Report

No report.

9. Agenda/Public Forum:

Motion to open the Agenda/Public Forum: Councilmember Sciara

Second: Councilmember Waneck

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the Affirmative.

Rosemary Shashoua, Westwood House – believes there is too much traffic on Irvington. Ms. Shashoua suggested the former Valley Ford property be made into parking. Mayor Birkner pointed out that the

Borough does not own the Valley Ford property. Ms. Shashoua said the owner lives in Colorado and the Borough should contact him.

Dennis Farrell, 21 Ruckner Road – does not think Park Avenue should be made into a two-way street. Traffic at rush hour would be very heavy and detrimental to the library patron. He also voiced concern with any effect on Veteran's Park.

John Clark, 17 Harrington Avenue – described how Captain Durante came to his door to discuss parking ideas around Berkeley School, which he was doing with all the neighbors. Mr. Clark appreciated the effort.

Jim Moldow, Hillsdale – discussed his concerns with flooding and the dam. Mayor Birkner advised him that flooding issues would be addressed more fully at a public meeting hosted by the Task Force sometime in September.

Kevin O'Brien, 28 Summit Avenue – voiced his concern that the Task Force meeting violated the Open Public Meetings Act. Mayor Birkner disagreed and explained why. Mr. O'Brien and Mayor Birkner discussed his recent OPRA request.

Frances Yates, 72 Harding Avenue – discussed her concerns with water releases and the dam. Ms. Yates and Mayor Birkner discussed the pending dam project. Mayor Birkner noted the matter would be discussed more fully at the public meeting hosted by the Task Force. Ms. Yates and the Governing Body had dialogue on her concerns with the purported Task Force meeting OPMA issues. Ms. Yates voiced concern with security at night at Westvale Park. Mayor Birkner explained how the Police Department patrols the area.

Jim Moldow, Hillsdale – read an email he received from the County Executive's office to the County DPW from the US Geological Survey. It explains that the gauge in the Pascack Brook is a stage-only gauge and inadequate for use as a discharge gauging station. Mr. Moldow requested the Task Force investigate reconfiguring the gauge for use in measuring discharge.

Motion to close the Agenda/Public Forum: Councilmember Sciara

Second: Council President Miller

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.

10. Presentation of Bills, Financial Reports and Resolutions:

Mayor Birkner advised that the following Resolutions would be enacted in one motion. Councilmembers who wished to remove any Resolution(s) to be voted upon separately, had the opportunity to do so at this time, and said Resolutions would be considered separately.

Council President Miller requested item 'c' be removed. He asked Mr. Hoffmann if the Corrective Action Plan had been forwarded to the Auditor. Mr. Hoffmann said it had but the Auditor had not yet reviewed it in detail. Council President Miller voiced his concerns with the procedure under item #10. He asked that the language be clarified. Council President Miller discussed his concerns with the procedure under item #5. It was determined to remove the resolution from the Consent Agenda.

Resolutions as Consent Agenda:

- a) **Resolution #11 - 187: Bill List & Statement of Cash**
- b) **Resolution #11 - 188: Authorize Refund of Taxes**
- d) **Resolution #11 - 189: Amusement Device License Renewal-Burke's on Old Hook**
- e) **Resolution #11 - 190: Accept Retirement of PO Jeffrey Emmett**
- f) **Resolution #11 - 191: Authorize Drainage Repair-Wheeler & Trenton Avenues**
- g) **Resolution #11 - 192: Authorization to Enter 2012 CD Grant Agreement-Removal of Architectural Barriers**
- h) **Resolution #11 - 193: Authorization to Enter into Shared Service with Township of Washington for Electronic Recycling (107-PVCPS Pascack Valley Cooperative Pricing System)**
- i) **Resolution #11 - 194: Authorization to Apply for & When Appropriate Enter Grant Agreement-Westvale Park Community Garden**

Motion to adopt resolutions #11-187 through #11-194: Councilmember Phayre

Second: Councilmember Waneck

Roll Call: Councilmember Grefrath – Absent Councilmember Phayre - Yes
 Councilmember Quinn – Yes Councilmember Sciara - Yes
 Councilmember Waneck – Yes Council President Miller – Yes

11. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Councilmember Sciara Second: Councilmember Miller

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.

The time was 9:35 pm.

Attest:

(signed) Denise Holmes

Denise Holmes, Deputy Clerk

Proofed by: Karen Hughes, RMC, Borough Clerk